



Richland School District 88A NEWS & NOTES August 18, 2017



For more school information, announcements, etc. visit www.d88a.org

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear District 88a Families,

I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful start to the school year wonderful school year here at District 88a! I was impressed with the turn out for family picnic, locker set up and the various curriculum night activities. The community and parent support for the school is amazing!

Our theme for the year is **Helping Each other Reach Our goals**. While that last sentence is not correctly written or formatted, I hope you can see why. By helping each other reach our goals – we can become someone's **HERO!** We hope we can inspire our students, and each other to be a **HERO** whenever the opportunity presents itself.

As most of you are aware, our first day of school coincides with the solar eclipse. While this is an exciting event, it is also one that can bring significant long-term health risks for anyone staring into the sun unprotected. What has added to these concerns are reports that some of the glasses being marketed to protect the eyes when viewing the eclipse are inadequate to properly do so. As a result, we have made the decision to keep students inside for recess and PE on Monday during the event. Moreover, we are asking for the assistance of all of our families in speaking with your students about the very real dangers associated with staring into the sun.

Included below is a link to NASA's web site with information about the eclipse for families that may want to learn more about this special meteorological event together. <https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-recommends-safety-tips-to-view-the-august-solar-eclipse>

Here is to a great year!

Sincerely,
Joseph Simpkins
Superintendent

From the Desk of Dr. Whyte

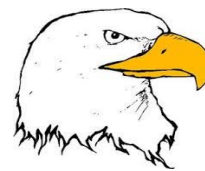
Our school year is off to a great start! I want to welcome everyone to the district and let you know that it is going to be a great year, with loads of opportunities for both students and parents.

Thank you to those who came out to the Welcome Back Picnic and Curriculum Nights for grades 1,2,5,7, & 8. I hope you found the time valuable to connect with your child's teachers as we begin to build this year's partnership and system of support.

On Wednesday, August 23rd we will hold our third Curriculum Night for the 2017-2018 school year from 5:30-7:00 for students in 3rd, 4th, and 6th grade. Curriculum presentations will be held at 5:30 for 4th Grade, 6:00 for 6th Grade, and 6:30 for 3rd Grade. 3rd grade presentations will be in the classroom, and 4th grade will begin the night in the Cafeteria. Parents can enter through door 6. The teachers will be available in their classrooms for questions outside of the presentation times. Junior High teachers will be in their classrooms all night to greet you individually and will present in the Main Gym.

If for some reason you could not attend one of these informational sessions, please contact the teachers or the office to get your questions answered.

I look forward to seeing each of you around the district this year. Please let me know if I can be of assistance in any way.



Follow us on Twitter! @Richland88a



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FROM THE JR. HIGH ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Great first week of school! Teachers, staff and most kids are excited to be back! Welcome to our new staff members and Mr. Simpkins, our new Superintendent!

Transportation is always a challenge with so many last minute registrations and changes, but we appreciate your patience. Our goal is to get all children to and from school safely. We are happy to have most of our drivers return and a couple new faces. Welcome to Mr. Bruno on the Purple route and soon our new driver for the Gray route. Mr. Josh has moved to the Blue route. Remember that First Student requires a 72 hour notice for any changes to pick up or drop off locations. If you are only riding home with another student for a day, notes are required from both parents to ride home on a friend's bus.

Fall sports are underway, with Softball and Baseball competing in Double Headers this weekend and a full slate of games the rest of the season. Boys Soccer and Cross Country are Home on Monday - Come out and cheer our athletes' efforts!

This year announcements are being done in the classrooms to eliminate interruptions to instruction. Handbook sign-offs are due back to school asap. Handbooks are available online this year, as well as in the Jr. High planners. If you require a hard copy, please check the box on the sign-off form.

Each week the Planner has a Character Corner with an attribute that is defined and a famous quote using this character trait. This week it is CHARACTER.



*"If you will think about what you ought to do for other people, your **character** will take care of itself."*

~Woodrow Wilson

THE 2017-2018 CALENDAR IS ATTACHED THIS WEEK FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

**RICHLAND YOUTH SPORTS
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**

**GO TO
richlandyouthsports.org
to register online**



**RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 88A
2017-2018 CALENDAR**

Revised 05/02/2017

Month/Date	Day	Event	Notes
August 14	Monday	Teacher Institute Day	No Classes
August 15	Tuesday	Teacher Institute Day	No Classes
August 16	Wednesday	Grades 1-8 First Student Attendance Day (SIP Day)	Half Day (JH 11:00- EL 11:25)
August 18	Friday	First Day of Kindergarten	
September 1	Friday	Early Dismissal (AM & PM Kindergarten Attendance 8:25 – 11:25)	JHS 12:55 PM ES 1:25 PM
September 4	Monday	Labor Day	No Classes
October 6	Friday	Early Dismissal (AM & PM Kindergarten Attendance 8:25 – 11:25)	JHS 12:55 PM ES 1:25 PM
October 9	Monday	Columbus Day	No Classes
1st Quarter Ends – October 20			
October 30	Monday	Teacher Institute Parent Teacher Conferences 5-8:30 pm	No Classes
October 31	Tuesday	Parent Teacher Conferences – 8-11:40 am	No Classes
November 1	Wednesday	Parent Teacher Conferences 1-8:10 pm	No Classes
November 10	Friday	Veteran’s Day – Classes in session	
November 21	Tuesday	Early Dismissal (AM & PM Kindergarten Attendance 8:25 – 11:25)	JHS 12:55 PM ES 1:25 PM
November 22	Wednesday	Thanksgiving Break	No Classes
November 23	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day	No Classes
November 24	Friday	Thanksgiving Break	No Classes
December 21	Thursday	Early Dismissal (AM & PM Kindergarten Attendance 8:25 – 11:25)	JHS 12:55 PM ES 1:25 PM
December 22nd - January 5th		Winter Break	No Classes
January 8	Monday	Teacher Institute Day	No Classes
2nd Quarter Ends – January 12			
January 15	Monday	Martin Luther King Day	No Classes
February 16	Friday	School Improvement Day (AM & PM Kindergarten Attendance 8:25 – 11:25)	Half Day (JH 11:00- EL 11:25)
February 19	Monday	President’s Day	No Classes
March 5	Monday	Casimir Pulaski Day	No Classes
March 29	Thursday	Early Dismissal (AM & PM Kindergarten Attendance 8:25 – 11:25)	JHS 12:55 PM ES 1:25 PM
March 30	Friday	Good Friday	No Classes
3rd Quarter Ends – March 16			
April 2nd – April 6 th		Spring Break	No Classes
May 18	Friday	School Improvement Day (AM & PM Kindergarten Attendance 8:25 – 11:25)	Half Day (JH 11:00- EL 11:25)
May 24	Thursday	Kindergarten Last Day of Attendance	
May 25	Friday	Early Dismissal (AM & PM Kindergarten Attendance 8:25 – 11:25)	JHS 12:55 PM ES 1:25 PM
May 25	Friday	Last Day Student Attendance – 4 th Quarter Ends	
May 28	Monday	Memorial Day	No Classes
Proposed Emergency Days May 29, 30, 31 and June 1, 4			Emergency Days

Regular school days will be extended one day for each emergency day used during the school year. If no emergency days are used, the last official day of school will be May 25, 2018.



BASKETBALL & CHEER

Available to all 3rd through 6th grade
RICHLAND students

No experience needed!

ONLINE REGISTRATION opens on Friday, August 11th

Visit the RYS table during
Richland's **Curriculum Nights**

or

Check out **richlandyouthsports.org** for more info